



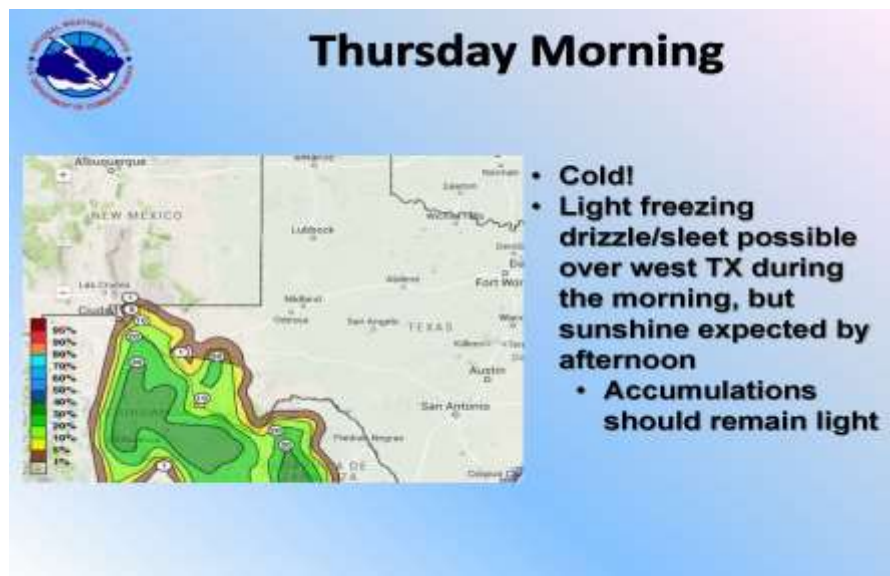
Texas Department of Public Safety Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

Event Name	Potential Winter Weather
Date	January 7, 2015
Time	1500
Operational Period	January 6, 2015
Report Number	#2

Regions Affected	
DPS Regions Affected	Statewide
DDCs Active	None

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:

The anticipated Arctic cold front brought very frigid temperatures and wind chill values in the low teens to parts of the state overnight and this morning. The cold, dry air initially at the surface will keep the levels of moisture fairly limited, thus the amount of precipitation that could fall over the area is expected to be generally light. A mixture of wintery precipitation is forecast for parts of Texas Friday into Saturday morning, including North, Northwest, Central, South Central Texas, and the Hill Country area. Some residual moisture may linger into Monday and could produce light precipitation, confined mainly to the Red River Valley area and northward.





Friday



- Overall, widespread amounts appear to be light but there will likely be a corridor of heavy precipitation though too early to pinpoint
- Temperatures may rise just above freezing by afternoon, but may still have wintry mix of precipitation continue



Friday

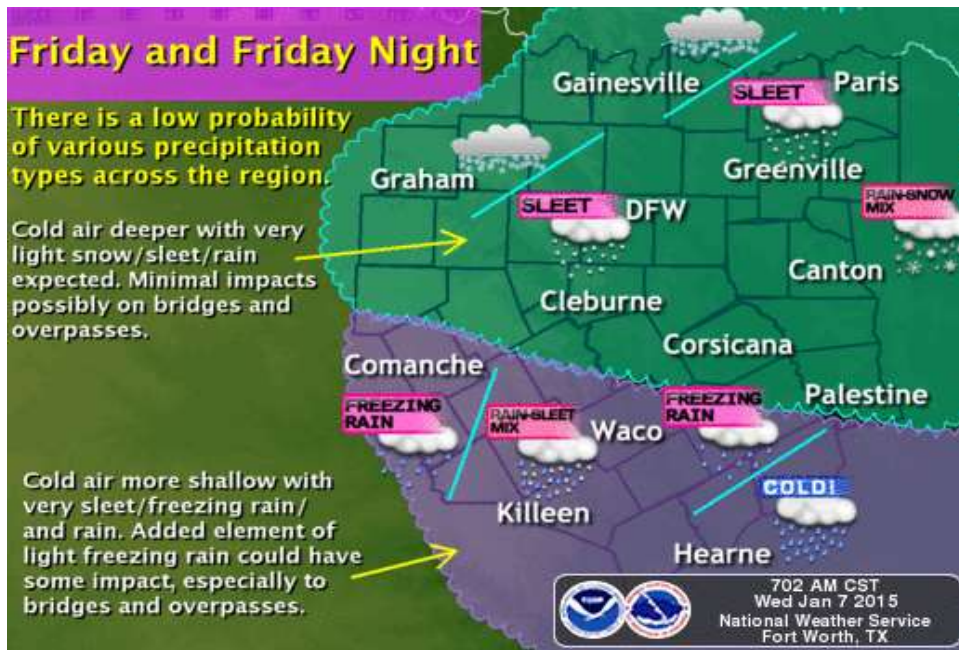


"Worst Case" Ice Accumulations on Friday

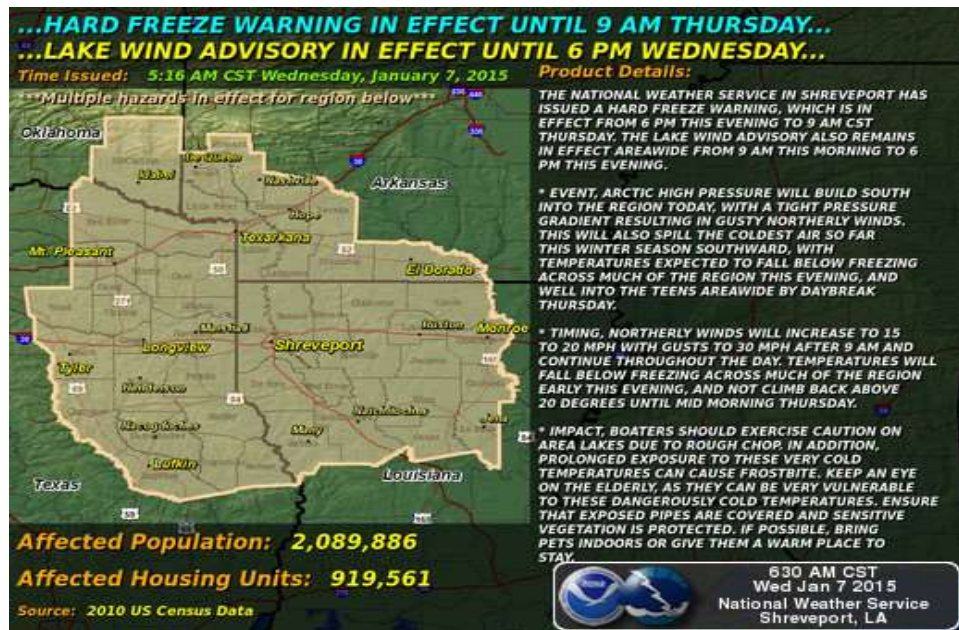


Region 1

NWS Fort Worth: Today will be very cold and windy as a strong surge of arctic air spreads south over the region. A wind advisory is in effect for all of North and Central Texas from mid-morning through 6PM for strong north winds of 20 to 30 mph with gusts up to 40 mph. Highs will be in the lower 30s to mid-40s with temperatures holding steady or slowly falling in the afternoon. The combination of cold temperatures and strong north winds will produce dangerous wind chills in the teens and lower 20s over the northwest half of the area. Dress in layers to stay warm and avoid prolonged exposure to the cold. Remember outside pets and animals by providing a place of warmth and thawing out frozen drinking water. Precipitation chances will return late Thursday into Friday when an upper level disturbance approaches from the West. Cold air will already be in place, and another surge of cold air is expected to arrive early Friday. Temperatures will be low enough for a mix of rain and snow across roughly the northern two-thirds of the region with a rain, sleet, and freezing rain mix possible across Central Texas. At this time, precipitation chances remain fairly low and only minor accumulations are expected, mainly on elevated surfaces such as bridges and overpasses, though less-used secondary roads could have some impacts as well. Stay tuned to area forecast updates this week as newer model data arrives and confidence with details of the forecast increases.

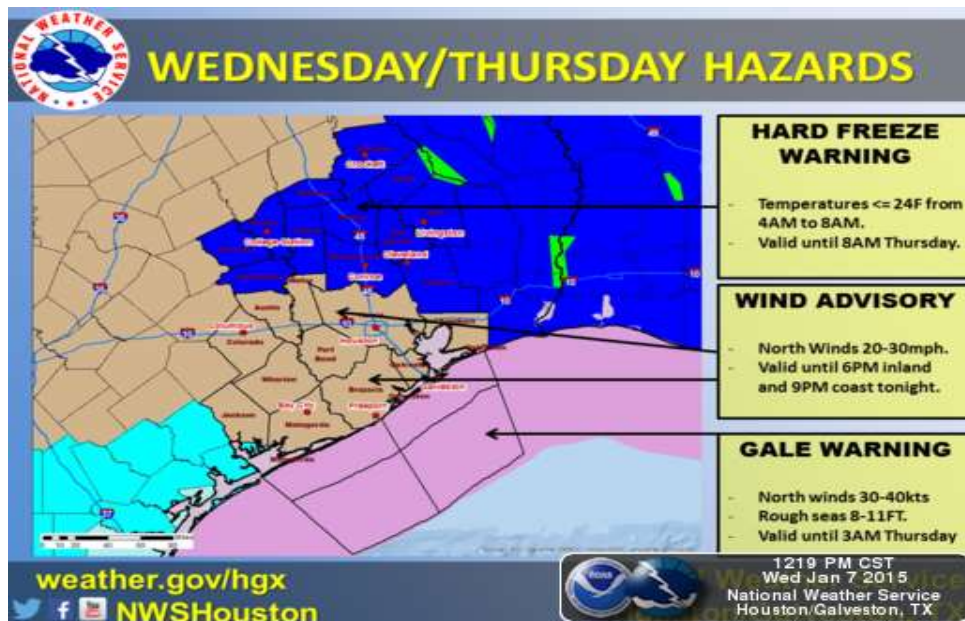


NWS Shreveport: A Hard Freeze Warning is in effect until 9AM Thursday morning for the region, and a Lake Wind Advisory is in effect until 6PM this afternoon. Temperatures are forecast to fall below freezing across much of the area this evening, and into the teens area-wide by daybreak Thursday.

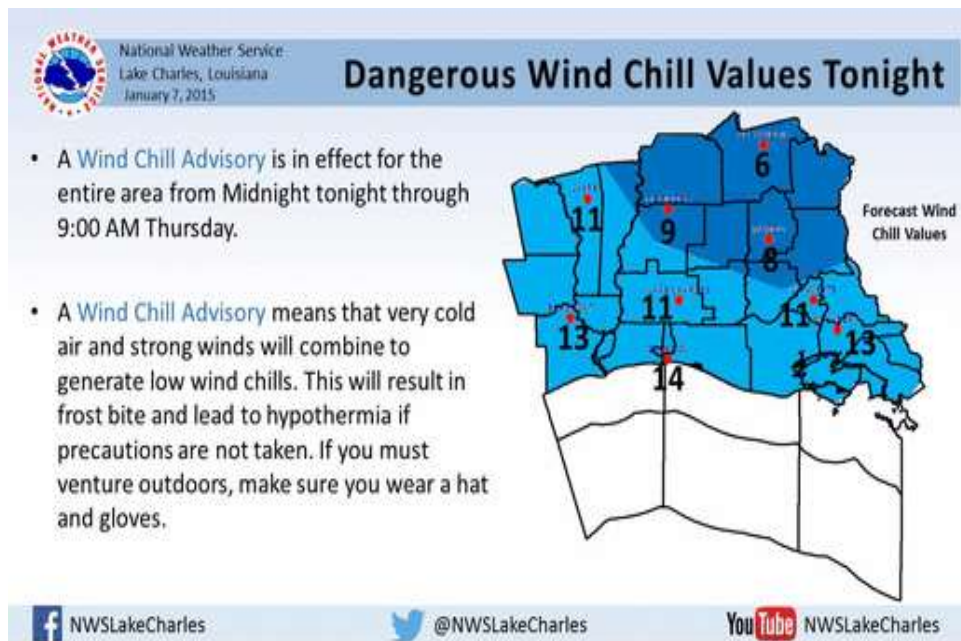


Region 2

NWS Houston/Galveston: Gusty north winds and colder temperatures in the wake of a strong cold front prompted the issuance for several warnings and advisories for the area. Expect winds to decrease this evening, but remain high enough for wind chills in the 10s and 20s as temperatures fall below freezing.



NWS Lake Charles: An area-wide Hard Freeze Warning is in effect from midnight tonight to 9AM Thursday for the NWS Lake Charles county warning area. A Wind Advisory is in effect until 6PM this evening for the same locations. Winds of 20 to 25 mph with 30-mph gusts were occurring from the IH10 Corridor to the coast. Temperatures are forecast to be in the upper teens to lower 20s and remain below freezing through mid-morning Thursday.



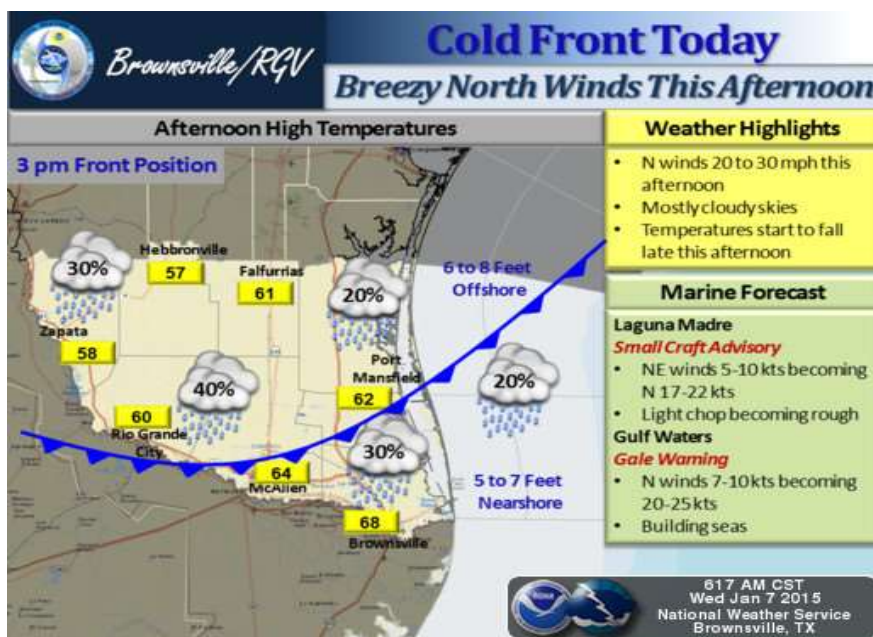
DDC 15 Beaumont (Includes Hardin, Orange and Jefferson Counties)

DDC 15 and jurisdictions within the DDC area of responsibility are closely monitoring weather situations. A weather briefing was conducted by the National Weather Service, Lake Charles at the monthly mutual aid group meeting today. At this time, there is a less than 20% chance of rain/freezing rain/sleet mix Saturday morning. A weather conference call with updated weather information is scheduled for Thursday afternoon. Local jurisdictions are reviewing their plans

and resources. The City of Beaumont has reached out to TxDOT to meet Friday morning to discuss any potential impacts over the weekend to roads and a plan for a coordinated response if necessary. At this time, there are no warming centers scheduled to be opened. The Salvation Army maintains normal operations of their shelter. DDC 15 has no plans at this time to increase its level of readiness.

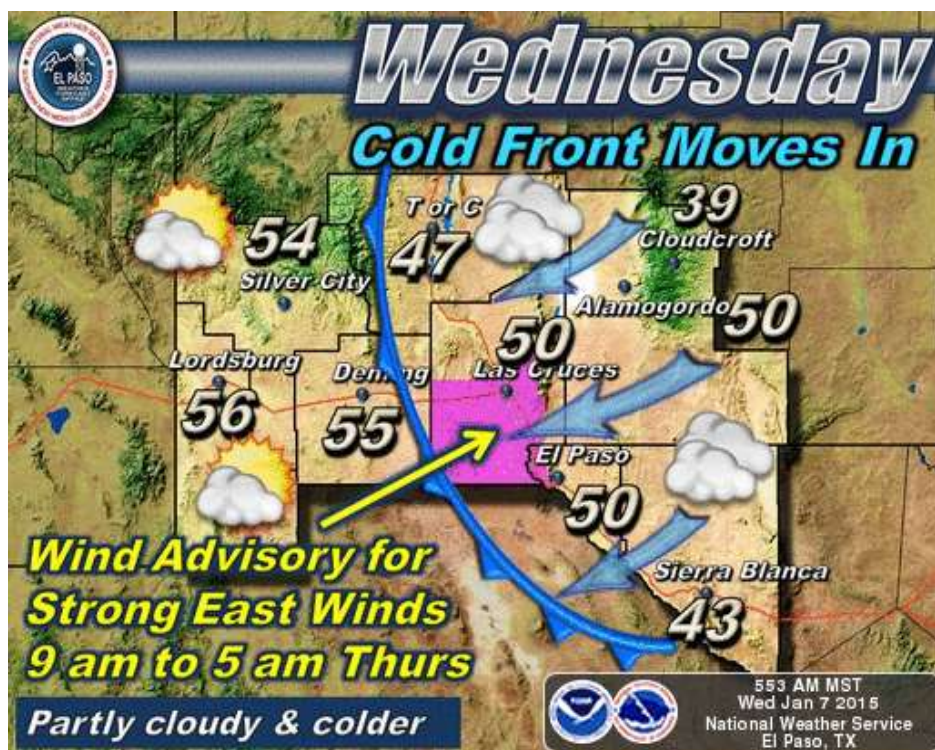
Region 3

NWS Brownsville: Temperatures will warm into the upper 50s to mid-60s across the region today, before the next cold front moves through this afternoon. Temperatures will start to fall later this afternoon. Cloudy skies are expected once again, along with increasing rain chances. The greatest chance for rain will start out over the western ranchlands and brush country and spread eastward towards the coast later this afternoon and this evening. Breezy conditions are expected to develop this afternoon as north winds increase to 20 to 30 mph, with the strongest winds occurring across the coastal counties. Tonight, temperatures will drop into the low to mid 30s across much of the inland areas and into the upper 30s to around 40 along the coast. These cold temperatures combined with north winds of 15 to 25 mph, will result in "feels like" temperatures of 22 to 30 degrees. A Wind Chill Advisory has been posted for all counties in Deep South Texas and the Rio Grande Valley from 3 am through 10 am Thursday.



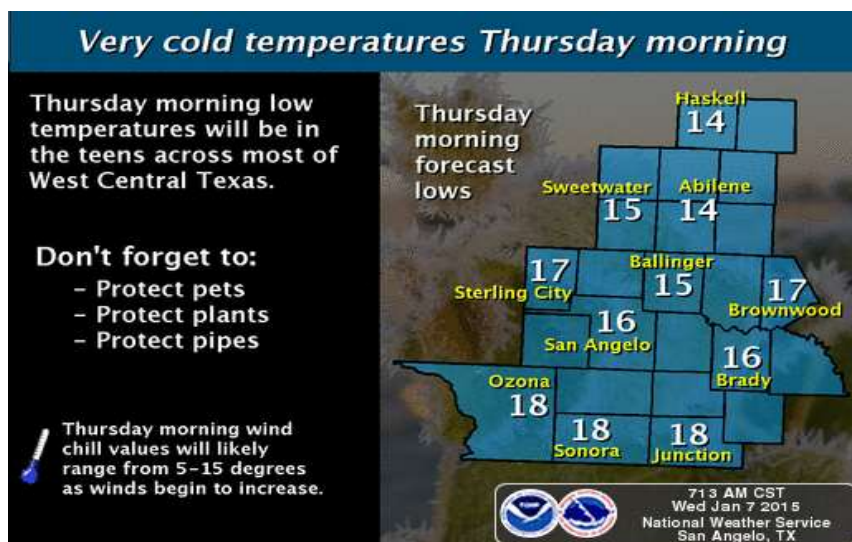
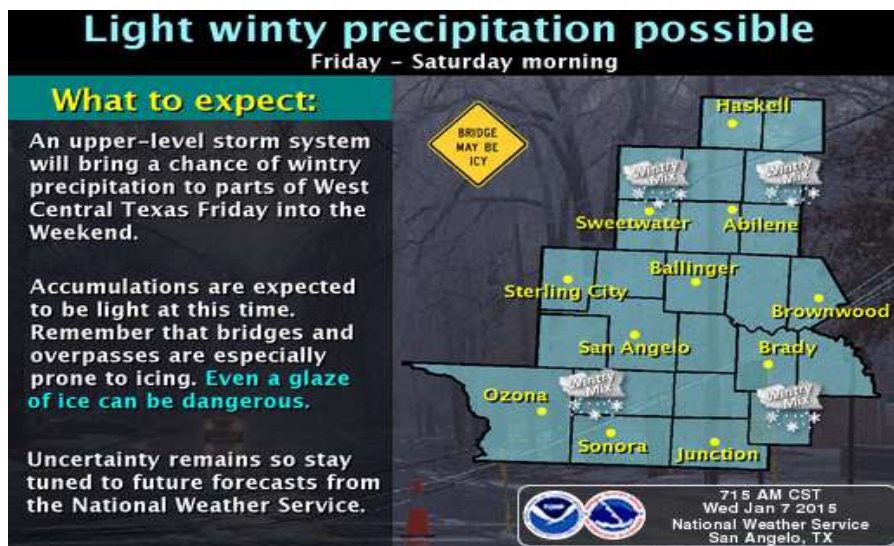
NWS Corpus Christi: A cold air mass along with plentiful moisture and lifting mechanisms to lift that moisture will produce areas of rain Friday through Sunday. The best chances for rain will be Friday night and Saturday, as a coastal trough and upper level disturbance provide the best lifting mechanisms for rainfall. As colder air moves farther into South Texas, the cold air and rain could produce some light freezing rain or freezing drizzle after midnight Friday night into Saturday morning before temperatures warm up. However, there is still a lot of uncertainty whether it will be cold enough for wintry precipitation to occur. At this time, the best chance for wintry precipitation will be near and north of a Cotulla to Three Rivers to Victoria line. After lows Saturday morning in the 30s, highs may have trouble getting into the 40s on Saturday. The upper low moves east Sunday, bringing drier air and less rain. Temperatures will warm into the upper 40s and lower 50s Sunday.

mountains such as the Franklin and Organ Mountains. Warm air and moisture will move up from the south tonight and give much of the area a slight chance of freezing drizzle/freezing rain by early Thursday morning. If this freezing precipitation occurs, driving may become hazardous, especially since rush hour traffic could be impacted.



NWS San Angelo: An upper-level storm system will bring a chance for wintery precipitation to West Central Texas Friday into the weekend. Temperatures will drop into the teens across most of West Central Texas by sunrise Thursday, making it the coldest morning so far this winter

season. Wind chill values will be in the 5- to 15-degree range during the morning hours, as winds begin to increase. Don't forget to protect your pets, plants, and pipes! Uncertainty remains in the forecast, but at this time accumulations are expected to be mostly light. Stay tuned to future forecasts from the National Weather Service for the latest information.



DDC 09 Fort Stockton (Includes Loving, Ward, Crane, Reeves, Upton, Pecos and Terrell Counties)

Pecos County: Pecos County will have a shelter on standby for the upcoming winter weather expected. The shelter is located at the First Baptist Church, 400 North Texas, Ft. Stockton, Texas 79735. The County will be moving 150 cots/blankets from Terrell County to Pecos County before this weekend.

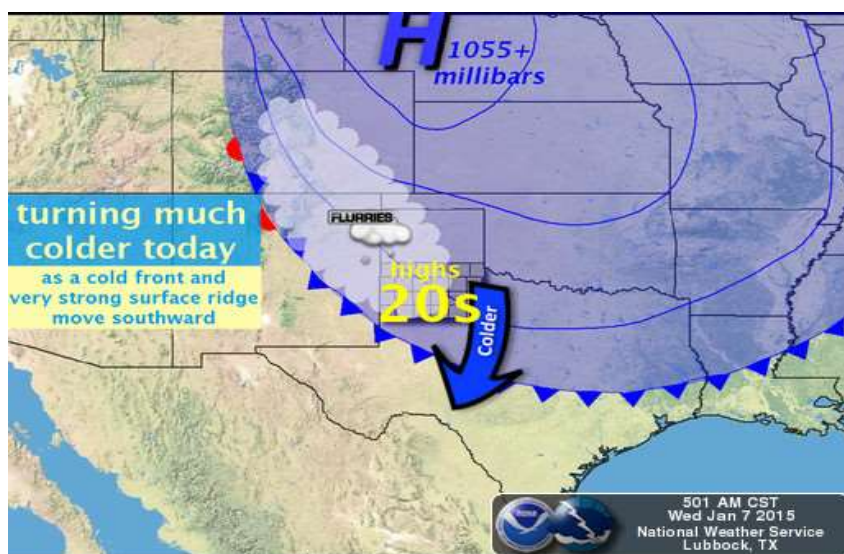
Reeves County: Reeves County will be available to open a shelter if needed; however, they will not have personnel on standby. No unmet needs or requests.

DDC 09 Midland (Includes Gaines, Dawson, Borden, Andrews, Martin, Howard, Winkler, Ector, Midland, and Glasscock Counties)

A poll of the area reveals that there are no shelters or warming shelters currently open. All areas are aware of the next wave of winter weather heading our way and they are monitoring it closely. Should the need for a shelter to be opened arise, they could open one on short notice. With very few exceptions, Oncor is reporting that almost all of the residential power has been restored in the area. None of the 240 distribution crews, 120 vegetation crews or 20 bull dozer crews have been released as of today.

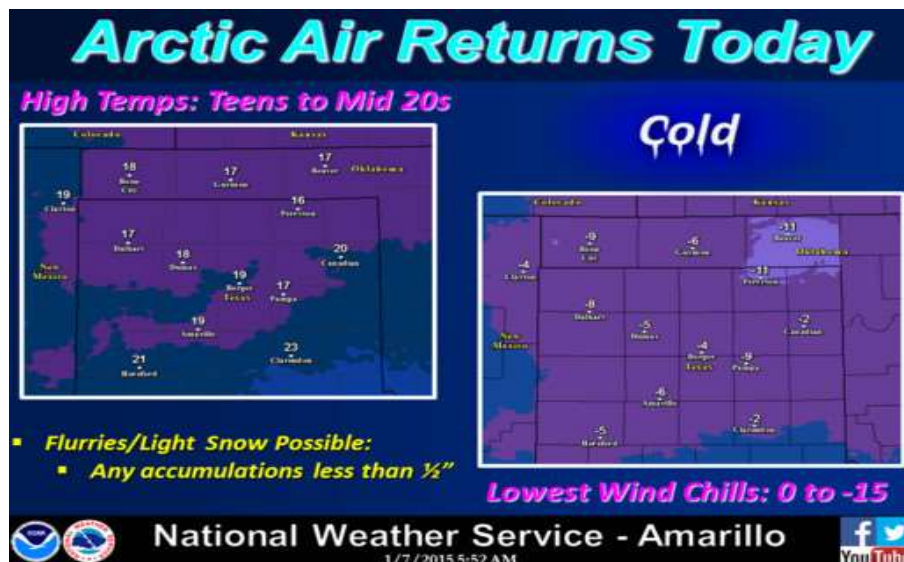
Region 5

NWS Lubbock: The leading edge of another Arctic air mass began a plunge through the Texas South Plains region this morning, generating stiff northeast winds and holding temperatures today mostly in the 20s. Wind chill readings below zero may occur throughout the southwest Panhandle. A chilly night in the teens will follow, although winds returning to the south will signal a quick rebound in temperatures for Thursday. After a brief warmup into the 40s Thursday, yet another cold front will surge through the South Plains region late Thursday into early Friday. Temperatures will only top out in the mid-20s to near 30 with breezy northeast winds. Additionally, an upper level disturbance approaching from the southwest will promote slim chances for some freezing drizzle and light snow across the South Plains and Far Southwest Panhandle into the Southern and Central Rolling Plains. While accumulations are expected to remain very light, a thin glaze of ice or light dusting of snow may still lead to travel problems Friday into Friday night.





NWS Amarillo: Arctic air plunged southward through the Panhandles today, teaming with gusty north winds to produce below zero wind chill readings. Bundle up before you head out! Some flurries will be possible as well.



DDC 03 Wichita Falls (Includes Hardeman, Baylor, Cottle, Foard, Wilbarger, Wichita, Archer, Clay, Montague, Jack and Young Counties)

DDC 3 Wichita Falls will closely monitor the situation and maintain communication with local jurisdictions, state and voluntary agencies. Cots and blankets are pre-positioned in the eleven counties of the Wichita Falls Disaster District. American Red Cross (ARC) has shelters identified in each county/city and is prepared to open them if necessary. In the event shelters open, 2-1-1 is prepared to provide shelter information and locations. Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) crews are preparing plows and spreaders and will pre-treat bridges, overpasses and elevated structures as necessary. The Salvation Army (TSA) located at 403 Seventh Street in Wichita Falls has expanded their hours to remain open 24 hours due to extreme winter temperatures. Currently, there are no unmet needs or requests for assistance.

DDC 07 Abilene (Includes Kent, Stonewall, Haskell, Throckmorton, Scurry, Fisher, Jones, Shackelford, Stephens, Mitchell, Nolan, Taylor, Callahan, Eastland, Runnels, Coleman, Brown and Comanche Counties)

DDC 7 Abilene will closely monitor the situation and maintain communication with local jurisdictions, state and voluntary agencies. Cots and blankets are pre-positioned throughout the district. American Red Cross has shelters identified in each county/city and is prepared to open them if necessary. Local faith-based groups throughout the area provide shelter as needed. In the event shelters open, 2-1-1 is prepared to provide shelter information and locations. Texas Department of Transportation crews are preparing plows and spreaders and will pre-treat bridges, overpasses and elevated structures beginning this evening and continuing through tomorrow morning. The Salvation Army located at 1726 Butternut in Abilene has expanded their hours to remain open 24 hours due to extreme winter temperatures.

Region 6

NWS Austin/San Antonio: A Wind Advisory is in effect from noon today through 6PM this evening. Sustained winds of 20 to 30 mph are expected with wind gusts up to 40 mph possible. This is due to a strong cold front moving through South Central Texas today which will also bring colder temperatures into the area tonight. Highs today are expected to be cooler than yesterday reaching only the mid-40s in the north and mid 50s south. We are forecasting some freezing rain and sleet across much of South Central Texas Friday Night into Saturday morning. The graphic shows the current area that is forecast to see freezing rain or sleet Saturday morning. With colder temperatures in the Hill Country these areas could see some icy roadways while the IH35 Corridor may be impacted with icing on elevated surfaces. Check back for the latest forecast as the location of the freezing line and precipitation amounts will likely change.





DDC 11/23 Waco (Includes Bosque, Hill, Freestone, Hamilton, Mills, Coryell, Limestone, McLennan, San Saba, Lampasas, Bell, Falls and Milam Counties)

Bell County: The following warming stations/shelters are located within the county at the following locations:

City of Temple - Transformation Station, 503 East Central Avenue (men) will be open Wednesday, January 7, 2015 at 5PM until Thursday, January 8, 2015 at 9AM.

City of Killeen - Killeen Community Center, 2201 East Veterans Memorial Boulevard is currently open through Thursday, January 8, 2015.

STATE AGENCY REPORTS TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT RESPONDING AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS

Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) - District Coordinators have been requested to poll their jurisdictions to obtain information on any contingency planning, including warming center and shelter operations.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT): TxDOT began pre-treating roads and highways in parts of the State that are forecast to be impacted by wintery precipitation. They are coordinating movement of equipment and de-icing materials in preparation to respond where needed. They also have been conducting daily operational calls with their district offices.

American Red Cross (ARC): American Red Cross (ARC) has shelters identified in each county/city in DDC 03 Wichita Falls and DDC 07 Abilene and is prepared to open them if necessary.

The Salvation Army (TSA): The Salvation Army located at 403 Seventh Street in Wichita Falls has expanded its hours to a 24-hour operation due to extreme winter temperatures. They also have expanded their hours to a 24-hour operation at 1726 Butternut in Abilene, due to extreme winter temperatures.

2-1-1 Information Referral Hotline: 2-1-1 is prepared to provide shelter information and locations where needed.

FINAL COMMENTS: The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) continues to monitor the situation and will provide additional situation reports as needed. The SOC is at Activation Level IV (Normal Conditions).

The four levels of SOC activation are:

Level I (Emergency Conditions)
Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)
Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)
Level IV (Normal Conditions)

This Situation Report can be found on the DEM Homepage at: www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem

W. Nim Kidd, CEM®
Assistant Director
Texas Department of Public Safety
Chief
Texas Division of Emergency Management